



Association of Connecticut Ambulance Providers

Aetna Ambulance :- Ambulance Service of Manchester :- American Ambulance Service
American Medial Response :- Campion Ambulance Service :- Hunter's Ambulance Service

February 19, 2009

Senator Kissel, Representative Mushinsky and other distinguished members of the Program Review & Investigations Committee;

This written testimony is being submitted in favor of SB 903 "AA Implementing the Recommendations of the Program Review Committee Concerning the Economic Regulation of Taxicabs and Livery Vehicles." In particular, Section 4, lines 323 through 329 that references disclosure of subcontracts.

The Association of Connecticut Ambulance Providers as a whole provides more non-emergency medical transportation in the State of Connecticut than other providers combined. Through the course of doing business it became apparent to this Association that the current contractors or brokers coordinating this form of transportation were contracting separately with private insurance companies and individual managed care organizations.

The problem here is the brokers not disclosing this to the providers. The broker would assign a trip and reimburse the provider at the same rate that is negotiated between the broker and the provider for the Department of Social Services (DSS) work, which is a greatly reduced rate from the provider's allowable rates. This, in our opinion, is an inappropriate use of the broker's contract with the state. The brokers are disguising other more profitable private contracts under an umbrella of rates negotiated with the provider for the DSS work. So, as you may have already deduced the provider that already has a valid contract with that same private insurance company or managed care organization are now being reimbursed at a lower rate than what was negotiated in their contract.

This is why the Association of Connecticut Ambulance Providers supports SB 903 and we urge you to support at least this section if nothing else. If my testimony has prompted any questions I encourage you to contact me at 860.886.1463 or at gallard@americanamb.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory B. Allard, Vice President